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December 21, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1646
Hand Carry to Office of Petitions

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/756,283; Filed January 9, 2001
For: **Latent Fusion Protein**
Inventors: Chernajovsky *et al.*
Our Ref: 0623.1000000/LBB/PAJ

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition to Withdraw from Issue under 37 C.F.R. § 1.313(c)(2) for Consideration of a Request for Continued Examination;
2. Petition Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17p);
3. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (PTO/SB/30);
4. Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
5. A listing of the cited documents on Form PTO-1449 (1 page);
6. Copies of cited documents AM2 and AN2;
7. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038); and
8. One return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
December 21, 2004
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter A. Jackman", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter A. Jackman
Attorney for Applicants
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LBB/PAJ/cjs
Enclosures

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